



U.S. Department of Justice
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NEWS RELEASE

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July 15, 2004

TOPEKA, KANSAS, MAN SENTENCED ON GUN CHARGE

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **LaSha Williams, 26, Topeka, Kansas, was sentenced on July 15, 2004, by U.S. District Judge Sam A. Crow to five years in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by three years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that Williams entered a guilty plea on April 8, 2004, to one count of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Melgren stated that Williams admitted at his plea that on November 25, 2003, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents arrested Williams for a parole violation and found approximately 14 grams (approximately .5 ounce) of marijuana and paraphernalia consistent with the distribution of marijuana on his person. Williams further admitted that during a subsequent search of his residence, agents found a loaded semi-automatic pistol. Williams also admitted that he possessed the firearm in furtherance of the distribution of marijuana.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Topeka Task Force in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony Mattivi in this prosecution.